

Appl. No. 09/517,127
Response to Office Action mailed 09/21/2007

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Claims 31 and 143 are objected to. Claims 49, 63, 64, 138, 141, 142, 154-156 and 172 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) for anticipation by U.S. Patent No. 6,048,256 to Obeng et al. Claims 140, 160-162 and 174 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) for anticipation by U.S. Patent No. 5,755,614 to Adams et al. Claims 27, 28, 31, 33, 49-51, 53-57, 63-65, 67, 138, 139, 141, 143, 152, 153, 157-159, 168, 170-173, 175, and 178 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) for obviousness over Adams in view of Obeng. Claims 18-20, 22-26, 32, 130 and 163 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) for obviousness over Adams and Obeng in further view of U.S. Patent No. 3,713,743 to Simms.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections and objections.

Referring to independent claim 18, the system recites limitations of claim 169 indicated in the Office Action to recite allowable subject matter. Applicants respectfully submit claim 18 is allowable.

The claims which depend from claim 18 are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claim as well as for their own respective features which are neither shown nor suggested by the cited art.

Referring to independent claim 49, the system recites limitations of claim 52 indicated in the Office Action to recite allowable subject matter. Applicants respectfully submit claim 49 is allowable.

Referring to independent claim 130, the system recites limitations of claim 131 indicated in the Office Action to recite allowable subject matter. Applicants respectfully

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submit claim 130 is allowable.

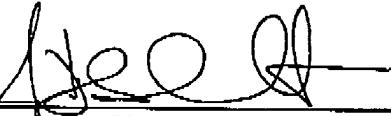
Referring to independent claim 163, the system recites limitations of claim 164 indicated in the Office Action to recite allowable subject matter. Applicants respectfully submit claim 163 is allowable.

All pending claims have been indicated to recite allowable subject matter. Allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is requested to phone the undersigned if the Examiner believes such would facilitate prosecution of the present application. The undersigned is available for telephone consultation at any time during normal business hours (Pacific Time Zone).

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 1/22/08

By: 

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